

HEALTH
E 12 OCT 46
C.R. 52

LIBRARY

SEATON VALLEY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

-----oOo-----

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1945.

SEATON VALLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL:

Councillor J.G. Harrison, J.P.,

VICE- CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL:

Councillor A. Scott.

--oOo--

HEALTH COMMITTEE:

CHAIRMAN: Councillor Mrs. C. Langman.

Members: The whole Council.

OFFICIALS OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health:

William Cunningham, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

Mrs. Evelyn M. Hall, M.B., B.S.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

Anthony Dorin, M.I.M. & C.E., C.R.S.I. M.S.I.A.
until October.

John W. Barker, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
from October.

Senior Clerk:

Miss C.R. Crosby until May.

Mr. T.J. Elliott from May.

Council Offices,
Seaton Delaval,
Northumberland.

27th September, 1946.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Seaton Valley Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you the Annual Report of the Health and Sanitary conditions of the district during the year 1945.

The Report has been prepared in an abridged form according to instructions from the Ministry of Health.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The seventh scheme for the mass immunisation of school-children was carried out in July, November and December when 370 children were protected against Diphtheria.

263 children under school age were immunised at the Child Welfare Clinics.

At the 31st December, 1945, the number of school children immunised was 86.6%.

Numbers under 5 years of age given by the County Authority worked out at 75.3%.

In addition 768 children of school age received the reinforcing protection at an interval of 4 years.

Infectious Diseases.

I have to record a slight decrease in cases of Scarlet Fever, and a substantial decrease in cases of Diphtheria.

Scarlet Fever.

50 cases were notified during the year as against 63 in 1944.

Diphtheria.

24 cases were notified during the year as against 139 in 1944.

No deaths occurred.

Measles.

As throughout the rest of the country there was an increase in notification of cases.

Births.

The birth rate is slightly lower than in 1944.

Deaths.

The death rate is lower than in 1944.

Milk - Tuberculosis.

Three samples of milk submitted for examination for presence of B. tuberculosis were found to be positive. The three infected cows were slaughtered in different farms.

Milk Supply.

There was an average maintenance of supplies of milk, but the keeping qualities showed no improvement.

Transport facilities may be improved in 1946 when milk should be fresher.

Details of analyses of samples will be found within the report.

War Conditions.

I have no evidence of malnutrition in the people due to war conditions.

I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their sympathetic encouragement during a year of difficult conditions, and Mr. Dorin and Mr. Barker and all the staff for their constant loyalty and hardwork.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

W. CUNNINGHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres) - 12,459

Population: Registrar-General's Estimate of population mid-year 1945 was 24,720 (24,290).

Inhabited Houses: 7,300 approximately at March, 1945.

Rateable Value - £103,452 at 1st April, 1946.
(£102,834 at 1st April, 1945).

Sum represented by a penny rate - £388 (£388 in 1944).

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Live Births	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	198	218	416
Illegitimate	<u>11</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>19</u>
	<u>209</u>	<u>226</u>	<u>435</u> (476)

Distribution of births registered in Seaton Valley Urban Area shown in districts:

District	<u>Legitimate</u>		<u>Illegitimate</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
Cramlington:	33	40	1	1	75
Seaton Delaval:	17	23	0	1	41
Soghill:	12	22	0	1	35
Earsdon:	49	34	1	3	87
	<u>111</u>	<u>119</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>238</u>

197 births (96 males and 101 females) were registered in other districts. Of these 9 males and 2 females were illegitimate.

Birth Rate.

The birth rate per 1,000 of the estimate resident population is 17.57 (19.59 in 1944).

Still Births.

15 (7 males and 8 females). (14 in 1944).

Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births - 33.33
(28.57 in 1944).

Deaths.

<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
134	131	265 (291 in 1944).

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	7	8	15
Illegitimate	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>15</u> (22)

Distribution of deaths in districts:-

District	Males	Females	Total
Cramlington	45	34	79
Seaton Delaval:	22	25	47
Seghill:	9	16	25
Earsdon:	58	56	114
	134	131	265

Death Rate.

The death rate per 1,000 of the estimate resident population is 10.70 (11.93 in 1944).

Corrected Death Rate.

The preparation and issue of the Comparability Factor has been suspended under present conditions, and it is not possible therefore to give the corrected death rate for 1945.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

No. 29	Puerperal Sepsis	-	1(2)
No. 30	Other maternal causes	-	2(0)

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age.

All infants per 1,000 live births - 34.49 (46.21)

Legitimate infants per 1,000
legitimate live births - 36.05 (48.45)

Illegitimate infants per 1,000
illegitimate live births - 0 (0)

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) - 46 (52)

Deaths from Measles (all ages) - 0 (0)

Deaths from Whooping Cough - 0 (0)

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) - 0 (2)

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

There were no changes in:

- (a) Laboratory facilities.
- (b) Nursing in the Home.
- (c) Treatment Centres and Clinics.
- (d) Hospitals.

Laboratory facilities:

The following examinations were made in the County Laboratory at Newburn:-

<u>Examination Requested</u>	<u>Swabs</u>	<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>
Diphtheria	125	10	115
B. Tuberculosis	85	9	76
Strept. Haemolyticus	45	23	22
Faeces (For Organisms)	<u>11</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>9</u>
	<u>266</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>222</u>

Ambulance Services.

In August, a private ambulance service was provided for residents, mainly in the southern areas of the district, who were not provided for by colliery and welfare ambulance schemes. The Council agreed to pay 25% of the mileage costs, of the colliery, welfare and private schemes.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water:

The water supply is obtained in bulk from the Tynemouth Corporation, and the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company, and is distributed through the Council's mains.

The supply is satisfactory in quality, and shortage has been experienced only in one area (viz. Holywell). Plans to overcome this are in hand.

The water is controlled by bacteriological and chemical examination by the Tynemouth Corporation, and the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company.

Drainage and Sewerage:

There have been no further complaints regarding the discharge of storm water from the Marsdon main sewer into the Brier Dene stream following the work which was carried out during the previous year.

Sewage from the western part of Cramlington continues to be treated at the temporary works at Nelson Village. The preparation of a permanent scheme of disposal must necessarily be delayed pending the construction of houses.

Rivers and Streams:

No action was taken in the matter of pollution of rivers or streams in the area during the year.

Colliery Companies are depositing washery effluent into the Brier Dene and Seaton Burn water courses.

Closet Accommodation)	
Public Cleansing)	These items are dealt
Sanitary Inspection of the District)	with in the Chief
Shops and Offices)	Sanitary Inspector's
Camping Sites)	Report.
Swimming Baths and Pools)	
Eradication of Bed Bugs)	

Schools:

The sanitary condition and the water supply of all schools in the area have been satisfactory.

SECTIONS D AND E

relating to Housing and inspection and supervision of Food are dealt with in the Senior Sanitary Inspector's report.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever.

50 (63) cases of Scarlet Fever were notified. 48 cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital. 2 cases were isolated at home.

Distribution in the districts was:-

Cranlington	15 (13)	cases
Seaton Delaval	12 (18)	"
Seghill	4 (4)	"
Earsdon	19 (28)	"
	<u>50 (63)</u>	"

Incidence of Scarlet Fever per 1,000 of the population was 2.02 (2.55).

Diphtheria.

24 (139 cases) of Diphtheria were notified during the year.

All were removed to the Isolation Hospital.

There were no (2) deaths.

Distribution in the districts was:-

Cranlington	1 (8)
Seaton Delaval	3 (30)
Seghill	1 (10)
Earsdon	19 (91)
	<u>24 (139)</u>

Incidence of Diphtheria per 1,000 of the population was 0.96 (3.7).

125 throat swabs were submitted to the Laboratory during the year, and 10 proved positive for Diphtheria.

1 non civilian swab was taken which proved positive.

6 cases had been immunised.

(4 years ago - 1); (2 years ago - 4); (1 year ago - 1).

370 (185) schoolchildren were immunised against Diphtheria, in addition 768 received a reinforcing dose after 4 years.

		Reinforcing Dose
Cranlington	164 (55)	159
Seaton Delaval	36 (59)	184
Seghill	2 (14)	92
Earsdon	168 (77)	333
	<u>370 (185)</u>	<u>768</u>

Incidence of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria for the year, separated into districts and houses of the following classes:- Clearance Area Houses; Council Houses; Private Dwelling Houses.

District	Scarlet Fever			Diphtheria		
	C.A.	C.H.	P.D.H.	C.A.	C.H.	P.D.H.
Cuslington	2(1)	2(1)	11(11)	1(0)	0(2)	0(6)
Seaton Delaval	0(3)	1(4)	10(11)	0(3)	0(10)	3(18)
Seghill	1(2)	2(1)	1(1)	0(2)	4(2)	0(6)
Earsdon:	0(0)	7(13)	12(15)	3(1)	12(36)	1(64)
	3(6)	13(19)	34(38)	4(5)	16(40)	4(94)

Pneumonia.

5 (6) cases of Pneumonia were notified.

Deaths - 6 (8).

Incidence rate per 1,000 of the population was 0.20 (0.32).

It is evident here that some cases of Pneumonia have not been notified.

Erysipelas.

4 (4) cases of Erysipelas were notified.

All cases were treated at home.

Notifiable Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) during 1945.

Case	Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)
Scarlet Fever	50(63)	48(52)	0(0)
Diphtheria	24(139)	24(139)	0(2)
Enteric Fever	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)
Puerperal Pyrexia	1(2)	1(1)	1(0)
Pneumonia	5(7)	1(0)	6(8)
Erysipelas	4(4)	0(0)	0(0)
Dysentery	2(6)	1(6)	0(0)
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2(0)	0(0)	0(0)
Whooping Cough	11(13)	0(0)	0(0)
Measles	197(76)	0(1)	0(0)
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	0(2)	0(2)	0(0)

Analysis of Total Notified Cases Under Age Groups.

[illegible]

Prevention of Blindness.

2 cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were notified during the year.

Tuberculosis.

At the beginning of the year there were 180(176) cases on the register, 128 Pulmonary and 52 Non-Pulmonary.

27 new cases, 22 Pulmonary and 5 Non-Pulmonary were reported during the year.

There were 13(14) deaths, 11 Pulmonary and 2 Non-Pulmonary.

140 (180) cases, 95 Pulmonary and 45 Non-Pulmonary were on the register at the end of the year.

8 cases, 6 Pulmonary and 2 Non-Pulmonary, were transferred to other districts.

13 cases, 11 Pulmonary and 2 Non-Pulmonary were removed from the register as having recovered.

35 cases, 29 Pulmonary and 6 Non-Pulmonary, were removed from the register.

New Cases and Mortality during 1945.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-	1	1	2	2	-	-	-	-
15-	2	4	-	-	1	1	-	-
25-	6	4	-	-	-	2	-	1
35-	3	1	-	-	3	-	-	1
45-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-
55-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65 & Over	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	12	10	3	2	8	3	-	2

Distribution of Deaths in Districts.

District	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Cramlington:	1	1	-	-	2
Seaton Delaval:	1	1	-	-	2
Seghill:	-	-	-	1	1
Earsdon:	6	1	-	1	8
	8	3	-	2	13

Death rate from Tuberculosis (all forms) was 72.22 (79.54) per 1,000 Cases.

Death rate per 1,000 population was 0.52 (0.57).

Notification of Tuberculosis.

In one case the death certificate was the only notification of Tuberculosis.

No action was necessary to enforce notification.

Tuberculosis in Milk.

Three samples of milk exposed for sale in the district were examined for B. Tuberculosis. As a result of these examinations we were able to trace three cows suffering from Tuberculosis. These were slaughtered. The County Veterinary Inspector co-operated.

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925, relating to persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis in the Milk Trade) or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act 1936 relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis.

Scabies Order, 1941.

Cases notified	-	44
Cases reported cured	-	0

Coal Dust from Maude & Eccles Pits, Backworth.

The improvement is still being maintained.

Venereal Diseases.

Propaganda has been conducted on the lines suggested by the Ministry of Health and Central Council for Health Education.

No cases had applied to the department for advice.

Birth-rates, Civilian Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case rates for certain Infectious diseases in the Year 1945. Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales	126 C.Bs. and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns Resident Pop 25,000 - 50,000 at 1931 Census	London Adm. County.
* Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population:-				
Live Births	16.1 /	19.1	19.2	15.7
Still "	0.46 /	0.58	0.53	0.40
Deaths:-				
All Causes	11.4 /	13.5	12.3	13.8
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.02
Diphtheria	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01
Influenza	0.08	0.07	0.07	0.07
Smallpox	-	-	-	-
Measles	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01
Rates per 1,000 Live Births:-				
Deaths under 1 Year of Age	46 /	54	43	53
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	5.6	7.8	4.5	7.6
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population:-				
Notifications:-				
Typhoid fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Paratyphoid fever	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00
Cerebro Spinal fever	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.06
Scarlet fever	1.89	2.02	2.03	1.57
Whooping Cough	1.64	1.65	1.47	1.25
Diphtheria	0.46	0.52	0.56	0.31
Erysipelas	0.25	0.28	0.24	0.31
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	-	0.00
Measles	11.67	10.89	11.19	9.03
Pneumonia	0.87	1.03	0.72	0.78
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still):-				
(a) Notifications:-				
Puerperal Fever)	9.93	12.65	8.81	(3.60
Puerperal Pyrexia)				(15.87 /
(b) Maternal Mortality - England and Wales:-				
No. 140 Abortion with Sepsis	No. 141 Abortion without Sepsis	No. 147 Puerperal Infections	Nos. 142-6 148 - 50 Other	
0.25	0.08	0.24	1.22	
Abortion:- Mortality per million women aged 15 -45 - England and Wales:-				
No. 140 With Sepsis		No. 141 Without Sepsis		
18		6		

* A dash (-) signifies that there were no deaths
/ Per 1,000 related Births / Rates per 1,000 Total population.
/ Including Puerperal fever.

URBAN DISTRICT OF SEATON VALLEY.

Annual Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.
Year ended December 31st, 1945.

To the Chairman & Members
of the Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to place before you an Annual Report in which is given a brief review of the work of the Department and the sanitary conditions obtaining in your district during the year 1945.

Housing.

With the termination of the war during the year it was hoped that some headway would be made to get houses repaired and put into a reasonable state but as the year closed the grave shortage of labour and materials was more marked than ever. The receipt of Circular 100/46 will make it still more difficult to get repairs done as builders will be unable to get materials from merchants, this will, no doubt, have an effect upon the maintenance work required to your own houses.

The following table shows houses occupied in the various clearance areas, and subject to closing orders, and individual unfit houses in the District for which new houses will have to be provided in the near future.

Premises	No. of Houses	No. of Houses	
		Requisitioned	Under licence
2/11 Farm Road	<u>Cramlington.</u>		
2/11 Farm Road	10	6	1
1/4 South Road	4		
1/46 Terrace Road	46	1	5
1/5 The Slack	5		1
1/4 Brickyard Cottages	4		
31a Station Road (C.O)	1		
Tilery Cottage, West Cramlington	<u>1</u>		
	<u>71</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>
	<u>East Cramlington.</u>		
1,3/4 & 7/8 Office Road			
Back	6		1
1/5 & 7/9 do. Front	8		1
1,2,4,7 & 9 Old Stone Road			
Front	5	1	1
2/9, 11/14 do. Back	12	-	1
1/77 Lamb Street	39	3	3
Surgery Cottages	<u>2</u>		
	<u>72</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>

Premises	No. of Houses	No of Houses	
		Requisitioned	Under licence
<u>Shankhouse.</u>			
1/12 Charlton's Buildings	12	--	1
11/31 Albion Terrace	21	--	4
45/66 do.	22	--	4
1/10 Boundary Road	10	5	2
1a & 1/3 Boundary Place	4	1	--
1/28 Middle Wood Road	28	4	1
1/26 Railway Road	25	4	3
1/9 Handyside Place	9	--	2
1/114 Shankhouse Terrace	114	5	8
10/11 Handyside Place (C.O)	2	--	--
	<u>247</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>25</u>
<u>East Hartford.</u>			
1/16 Office Road	<u>16</u>	--	<u>1</u>
<u>Earsdon.</u>			
2/4 Ivy Cottages	5	--	1
2 Chapel Square	1	--	--
1 Second Square	<u>1</u>	--	--
	<u>5</u>	--	<u>1</u>
<u>East Holywell.</u>			
1/19 Burn Row	19	--	6
1/19 Double Row	<u>19</u>	--	<u>2</u>
	<u>38</u>	--	<u>8</u>
<u>Holywell.</u>			
1/3 Pitt Cottages	3	1	1
East Grange Cottages (I.U.H)	2	--	--
1/2 Percy Cottages (")	<u>2</u>	--	--
	<u>7</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>Shiremoor.</u>			
1/13 Whitley Row	13	2	4
Hotspur Place	4	--	--
Holystone Cottage (I.U.H)	1	--	--
1/2 Bertram Place	2	--	--
2,6 & 7 Taylor Street	<u>3</u>	--	--
	<u>23</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Backworth.</u>			
7 Duke's Cottages	<u>1</u>	--	--
<u>Seaton Delaval.</u>			
1/50 & 52/107 Foreman's Row	106	--	--
19/60 Wheatridge Row	42	--	4
51 Foreman's Row (I.U.H)	<u>1</u>	--	--
	<u>149</u>	--	<u>4</u>
<u>New Hartley.</u>			
4 & 6/12 Cross Row	8	--	4
Colliery Gardens (I.U.H)	<u>1</u>	--	--
	<u>9</u>	--	<u>4</u>

Premises	No. of Houses	No. of Houses Requisitioned	Houses Under licence
<u>Seghill.</u>			
18/51 Blaketown	34	1	4
11/30 Whitehead's Buildings	10	-	3
1/21 Flat Top Row	21	-	4
1/7 Post Office Buildings	7	-	1
1/15 Quarry Row	15	3	1
1/10 Whiteheads Buildings.	10	1	-
1/3 Ladysmith	3	-	1
1/6 Station Terrace	6	1	1
2/11 Mares Close	9	-	-
1/5 Old Square	5	-	1
1/6 Old Fold	6	-	1
1/7 New Square	7	1	1
5/8 Main Street	4	-	2
8/11 Middle Farm	4	-	2
2/10 West Farm	9	1	1
1/12 North Terrace	12	-	1
1/12 Blue Row	12	1	2
1/8 Front Street	5	-	1
Blake's Buildings	1	-	-
Brickyard Cottage (I.U.H)	1	-	-
5 Cross Row (")	1	-	1
39/40 New Square (")	2	-	-
1 The Quarry (")	1	1	-
1 Reid's Lane (")	1	-	-
High West Farm (")	2	1	-
10/11 Post Office Buildings (")	2	-	-
30/33 New Square (")	4	-	-
6 & 8 The Quarry (")	2	-	1
1/3, 3a & 3b Front St. (")	5	-	-
7 & 9 The Quarry (")	2	-	-
2 & 3 Joiner's Cottages (")	2	-	1
	<u>205</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>30</u>
TOTALS:	843	44	92

The following houses in clearance areas or as individual unfit houses are either gutted or in such a deplorable state that it is not worth while carrying out works of repair.

2 houses in Laurel Place, Cramlington
 2, 5, 7 & 11 Old Stone Road Back, East Cramlington
 No. 13 Railway Road, Shankhouse
 No. 1 Chapel Square, Earsdon
 No. 2 Second Square, Earsdon
 Nos. 1, 12 & 13 Burn Row, East Holywell
 No. 4 Pit Cottages, Holywell
 6 houses in Hotspur Place, Shiremoor
 No. 3 Taylor Street, Shiremoor
 Brickgarth, Seaton Delaval
 No. 1 Burn's Yard, Seghill
 No. 5 Brickyard Cottages, Cramlington
 Nos. 4 & 11a Dodd's Buildings, Holywell
 No. 5 Cross Row, New Hartley.

The following houses in clearance areas were demolished during the year:-

Nos. 1/2 Low Main Place, Cramlington
 Nos. 2/3 The Willows, Backworth.

With reference to Nos. 1/50 & 52/107 Foreman's Row, Seaton Delaval, these houses were the subject of an enquiry upon the application of the Council for a Compulsory Purchase Order and as the period for application lapsed on the 9th November, 1940, it will, no doubt be necessary for the Council to make application in the near future for a Clearance Order.

At the end of the year 92 houses were subject to licences under Defence (General) Regulation No. 68AA, all of which are in clearance areas or closed or as individual unfit houses; a great deal of work is incurred by these houses as each has to be inspected about four times per annum, in connection with renewal of licences and carrying out of repairs, 29 licences were issued during the year.

45 houses are held by the Council under requisitioning powers and frequent inspections are carried out re repairs as complaints are received; many of these houses are in a poor condition and it is hard work endeavouring to keep them in a reasonable state of repair. I would respectfully draw the attention of members to the very poor condition of the following houses in clearance areas, which should be given early consideration for rehousing:-

Nos. 2/11 Farm Road, Cramlington
 Nos. 3/10 Boundary Road, Shankhouse
 Nos. 1, 3/4 & 7/8 Office Road Back, East Cramlington
 Nos. 1/5 & 7/9 Office Road Front, East Cramlington.

Since the formation of the Seaton Valley Urban District the following houses have been demolished or closed.

<u>In Clearance Areas</u>	<u>Individual Unfit Houses</u>	<u>Closed due to Closing Orders</u>
841	41	18

With reference to overcrowding it is impossible to give any accurate figures as to the number of overcrowded cases but it will be necessary in the very near future for a comprehensive survey to be carried out by competent staff to ascertain such cases and give an accurate figure so that the future building programme and commitments of the Council can be made more accurate.

No new houses were erected during the year but its close saw the commencement of the erection of some American type prefabricated houses.

The following houses will probably be scheduled for demolition so soon as houses have been provided in lieu of those already scheduled.

	<u>No. of Houses</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Seaton Delaval.</u>		
No. 1/31 Double Row	31	
Wheatridge Farm Cottages	7	
	<u>38</u>	
<u>Holywell.</u>		
Nos. 1/30 Church Row	30	
Nos. 1/46 Middle Row	46	
Nos. 1/48 Double Row	48	
Dodd's Buildings	7	
	<u>131</u>	169

	No. of Houses	Total
Brought forward		169
New Hartley.		
Nos. 1/104 Melton Terrace	104	273
East Holywell.		
Nos. 1/12 Office Row	12	
Nos. 1/35 North Row	35	
	<u>47</u>	320
Shiremoor.		
Nos. 1/28 Percy Street	28	
Nos. 1/28 Duke Street	28	
Nos. 1/22 Duchess Street	22	
Nos. 1/16 Louisa Street	16	
	<u>94</u>	414
East Cranlington.		
Nos. 1/25 Single Junction	25	
Nos. 1/25 Double Junction	25	
	<u>50</u>	464
Beckworth.		
Bank Foot Cottage	1	465
Cranlington.		
Nos. 10/50 Sanderson Terrace	41	
Nos. 1/21 Collingwood Terrace	21	
	<u>62</u>	527
Feasdon.		
Front Street East	2	529
West Cranlington.		
Nos. 1/8 Blue Bell Road	8	537

Towards the close of the year many inspections were carried out of premises occupied by applicants for prefabricated houses in course of erection to ascertain conditions as to cleanliness and presence of vermin and checking re overcrowded conditions.

Inspection Work.

	<u>1945</u>	<u>1944</u>
Number for all purposes	3354	4326
Informal notices served during the year		483
Complied with		372
115 carried forward to 1946.		

Statutory notices, 4 served in 1944 were complied with during 1945.
Statutory notices served during year .. Nil.

Drainage Works, Sewerage and Sanitary Alterations.

During the year alterations to our new drainage systems were installed in seven instances involving the taking out of 7 yards of disused 4" drain and 1 gully, the construction of 181 yards of new 4" drain, with connections to 10 new gullies and 7 inspection chambers for the following new installations:- 4 baths, 5 lavatory basins, 3 washing sinks and 6 new waterclosets.

It will be seen that a few owners are from time to time modernising their premises by installing baths, lavatory basins, sinks and hot water systems and I would suggest that no house is 100% fit for human habitation unless these are fitted so that the occupants can give every attention to personal hygiene, unfortunately there are a very great number of such houses within your district, some of which will be eliminated by closing orders, etc., and ultimate demolition and it is hoped that as time and human nature progress the statute books will contain provisions enabling local authorities to require such installations in those older types of houses which are otherwise reasonably fit for human habitation.

No privy conversions were carried out during the year, the following table shows premises where privy conversions should be carried out so soon as labour and materials are available; the sooner this work can be carried out the better it will be for the comfort of the people residing therein and will ease the work of refuse collection.

Lamb Street, East Cramlington	17	privy boxes
Elizabeth Street, do.	5	do.
Helen Street, do.	5	do.
Marjorie Street, do.	28	do.
Storey Villas, do.	2	privies & 1 ash-pit
Co-operative Buildings, do.	7	" & 4 ash-pits
do. do.	1	privy box
Hastings Street, Klondyke	62	privy boxes
Percy Street, do.	26	do.
Ridley Street, do.	68	do.
Storey Street, do.	34	do.
South Farm, South Cramlington	2	do.
West View, Klondyke	5	do.
Sanderson's Terrace, South Cramlington	9	do.
Dam Dykes, etc., Cramlington	2	do.
do. do.	3	privies and 2 ash-pits
Plessey Checks, Cramlington	3	" " 3 "
West Hartford Farm	3	" " 2 "
Crowhall Lane Farm	3	" " 2 "
Bassington Cottages Farm	2	" " 2 "
Whitehall Farm, Cramlington	1	privy and 1 ash-pit
Lake Cottage, Seaton Delaval	1	" " 1 "
North Moor Farm, do.	3	" " 3 "
do. do.	3	privy boxes
Laverock Hall Farm, Seaton Delaval	4	" "
do. do.	1	privy and 1 ash-pit
Stickley Farm, do.	4	privy boxes
Colliery Yard, do.	3	pail closets
Fenwick's Close Farm, Earsdon	1	privy and 1 ash-pit
do. do.	2	privy boxes
New East Farm, Earsdon	3	" "
Holywell Grange, East Holywell	1	privy and 1 ash-pit
Prospect Hill Farm, Shiremoor	3	privy boxes
Middle Farm, Backworth	2	" "
High Farm, do.	2	" "
Foster's Brickworks, Backworth	11	pail closets
South Lodge, do.	1	privy box
Ivy Cottages, Cramlington	7	privies and 3 ash-pits
Total	288	privy boxes
	38	privies and 27 ash-pits
	14	pail closets

Apart from the above mentioned premises there remains 107 pail closets, 32 privy boxes and 143 privies and 76 ash-pits in connection with houses scheduled for clearance and demolition which are still occupied; there are also 31 pail closets, 62 privy boxes and 60 privies and 32 ash-pits in connection with houses which may be scheduled in a few years time.

The above gives the following totals:-

373 privy boxes
241 privies and 109 ash-pits
152 pail closets.

When the work of privy conversions can be carried out I recommend that they be carried out over a period of two years and a sum equivalent to the product of a 3d. rate each year be allocated as the Council's contribution to the cost of the work, this would save loan charges.

There are quite a number of privies etc., existing at outlying farms etc., where water supplies are available, but not sewers, and I think that with a little co-operation between the owners of the properties and the Council, the former could be persuaded to instal small sewage settling and filtering plants to enable waterclosets to be installed which are very essential at farms where fairly large quantities of milk are being produced; similar work has been carried out in the past at Arcot Hall, Cramlington and The Avenue Canteen, Seaton Delaval and a scheme is in progress to drain the Mining Offices, Backworth, together with Park Side House and Moor View, Backworth.

The three premises mentioned in the last paragraph are running overflows from cesspools into the Brier Dene stream, but so far as I am aware there are no other such cases in this District.

The local collieries continue to pour into the Brier Dene and Seaton Burn streams fairly large quantities of coal washing plant effluent which deposits silt in the streams with the result that the Seaton Burn in particular is almost constantly black in appearance and apart from spoiling the amenities of this District do the same in the areas of the adjoining authorities through which the streams flow on their way to the North Sea.

One of the above companies is preparing plans for a fairly large precipitation and settling plant in an endeavour to recover all the coal dust sludge and particles from the coal washing plant effluent, it is to be hoped that the other two companies can be persuaded to erect similar recovery plants with the result that the two main water courses within the district will flow once more with crystal clear water.

One local company has a barium sulphate recovery plant which used to pass a very dense white effluent into the Brier Dene stream but due to continual pressure from the Health Department I am happy to relate that the company has seen fit to precipitate the effluent with barium carbonate and so extract almost 100% sulphate, the present effluent flows into a very large settling pond with the result that the effluent discharging into the stream is clear.

Atmospheric Pollution.

Most of the local collieries are now using electric power for haulage purposes thus eliminating chimneys and smoke. The Backworth Collieries Ltd., are in process of electrifying their haulage with the result that the smoke problem in their area will disappear. They are also changing over to coal washing as against dry cleaning, this will eventually eliminate the dust nuisance in the Backworth Village area.

Public Conveniences.

Public conveniences are situated in Earsdon, Shiremoor, Backworth, Seaton Delaval and at Newtown, Cradlington; there is a need for such premises in other parts of the area in order to prevent the misuse and fouling of premises and places not set aside for such purposes.

Disinfection and Disinfestation.

Two men are trained to carry out this work.

Advice is given to householders following infectious diseases to thoroughly cleanse rooms and boil and wash bedding and infected clothing, disinfection is carried out in very bad cases.

Frequent applications are received from all types of householders for advice re elimination of various types of vermin, they are advised to purchase well known brands of powders or liquids and in very bad and persistent cases our men carry out the work usually by using D.D.T. emulsion (diluted), D.D.T. powder or proprietary brands of fluid containing the usual 5% D.D.T.

In connection with infectious diseases 75 visits were carried out with the result that 21 library books were destroyed and the various owners compensated, amounting to £3. 9s. 6d.

Water Supply.

All premises within the District have mains water but far too many domestic premises have to rely upon outside standpipes usually provided by the Council, they are usually sited one for every six or eight houses, waste of water occurs from these pipes by bursts in frosty weather and use by tenants who fail to effectively turn off the tap, a great deal of this would be eliminated if such supplies were installed in houses.

Milk Supplies.

There were on the register at the end of the year:-

22 Milk Producers, including 6 Accredited and 1 Tuberculin Tested.
21 Milk Retailers.

One addition was made to the register of milk producers and two producers and four retailers were removed from the register as they had ceased to trade as such.

Inspections were made as follows:-

Cowsheds	124
Dairies	129

The bulk of the milk sold within the district is pasteurised as is all milk supplied to school children, with the exception of two schools which receive Tuberculin Tested milk. Seven producers of ordinary and four producers of accredited milk sell within the district; five producers of ordinary and one producer of accredited and the one tuberculin tested producer deliver all their milk in the Whitely Bay area whilst four producers of ordinary and two producers of accredited milk send their milk to pasteurisation depots at Blyth and Stocksfield.

The following licences for sale of milk were issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Order 1936:-

Tuberculin Tested	1
Accredited	NIL
Pasteurised	5.

74 milk samples were taken during the year and submitted to the County Laboratory at Newburn and the following results obtained.

Designation	No.	Methylene Blue Test Result		Tubercle bacilli present
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	
Ordinary	36	24	12	2
Accredited	29	21	8	1
Pasteurised	0	0	0	0
Tuberculin tested	7	6	1	0
	<u>72</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>3</u>

The above figures show that 70% of the samples taken proved to be satisfactory and whilst it is not a very high percentage it is not unreasonably low and I hope that with the amount of time spent, advice and instruction given to producers and dairy staffs the percentage will get higher in the future.

Meat and Other Foods.

The Ministry of Food have not a slaughtering establishment within the district with the result that all home killed meat is brought by road from premises in Newcastle upon Tyne and all carcasses including imported are delivered to and distributed from the Seaton Valley Retail Butchers' Association's Depot at Seaton Delaval; on the whole the quality is good but some meat was eventually condemned as unfit for human consumption due to bone taint, this was no doubt brought about by handling and transport to Seaton Delaval before complete setting had taken place. The transfer and handling of meat between Newcastle and Seaton Delaval and to butchers' shops has improved slightly over the last few years, but the time has arrived when special meat conveying vans, properly ventilated, and with hanging accommodation for carcasses should be provided and so obviate the present system of carcase stacking and packing on old foul meat wrappers, with livers and plucks intermingled; the inside of such vehicles never look very clean whereas they should possess a meat shop window appearance.

62 inspections of retail butchers' shops were made with the result that the following meats were condemned:-

489 lbs. Beef
118 " Mutton
26½ " Pork
53½ " Liver.

The carcasses of 133 pigs killed by allotment holders, cottagers and farmers were all found to be fit for human consumption.

Under the Slaughter of Animals Act 1933 twenty licences granted to slaughtermen were on the register at the end of the year.

44 inspections were made of retail food shops and all found to be maintained in a very satisfactory condition, the following foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption due to various defects including nail punctures, blown in tins or general decomposition:-

47 tins Milk	12 tins Chopped Meat
90 tins Baked Beans	3 tins Sardines
29 tins Stewed Steak	1 tin Meat
17 tins Prem	1 bottle Cod Liver Oil
8 tins Peas	11 lbs. Cheese
7 tins Syrup	40 lbs. Bacon
75 tins Fish	40 lbs. Oranges
4 tins Minced Beef Loaf	24 lbs. Margarine
14 tins Marmalade	14 lbs. Suet
71 lbs. Raisins	126 lbs. Dates
26 tins Pork Sausage Meat	1 jar Sandwich Spread
27 packets Pudding Mixture	1 jar Piccalillo
4 tins Pork Loaf	1 tin M.V. Ration

2 tins Soup	1 box Herrings
2 tins Salmon	4 lbs. Jelly Babies
11 tins Prunes	140 lbs. Pudding Mixture
63 lbs. Sugar	130 packets Pudding Mixture
89 lbs. Barley	30 packets Malted Milk
107.10/16 lbs. Butter	2 tins Household Milk
1 tin Meat and Vegetables	72 lbs. Rolled Oats
25 lbs. Prunes	1 tin Ox Tongue
2 tins Lambs Tongue	65½ lbs. Sausage Meat
8½ lbs. Pork Sausage Meat	11½ lbs. Ham.

Shops Acts.

135 inspections were made of general retail shops with reference to heating, lighting, ventilation, sanitary accommodation and cleanliness, all premises were found to be maintained in a reasonable condition and no action found necessary.

Food Preparing Premises.

There are eleven fried fish and chip preparing premises within the district which open very infrequently due to lack of fats, the majority of the premises are not entirely satisfactory particularly the preparing premises usually at the rear of the shop and so soon as labour and materials are available many will have to be altered to comply with Section 13 Food and Drugs Act 1938.

There are four bakehouses within the district, two of which are operated by owner/occupiers and will have to be reconditioned in the near future to comply with the above mentioned Act.

There are 18 premises wherein sausages, meat sundries, etc., are prepared, all of which are maintained in a reasonable condition but here again reconstruction will have to be carried out in the near future to comply with the above mentioned Act.

All the above premises are registered under Section 14 Food & Drugs Act 1938.

Factories Act 1937.

56 visits were made to factories using mechanical power and all found to comply with the provisions of the Act as administered by a District Council.

Petroleum & Carbide of Calcium.

The following licences were in force during the year:-

16	to store Petroleum mixture.
14	" " Carbide of Calcium.
1	" " Carbide of Calcium for gas generating purposes.

All premises are kept in good order and regulation notices exhibited for guidance of staffs.

Elementary Schools.

There are 22 schools within the district all of which are provided with waterclosets connected to the Council's sewers and washing facilities for the staff and pupils.

Billeting.

One evacuee from the London area was on the register at the end of the year.

Some visits were paid to houses wherein Bevin Boys are billeted and arrangements made re bedding, transfers or fresh billets.

Public Baths & Pools.
Camping Sites.

None within the Urban District.

Cinemas.

There are five such places within the district each supplied with adequate sanitary accommodation and suitably ventilated.

Rats & Mice Destruction Act.

Advice was sought on many occasions by householders and business people on how to clear premises of an odd number of rats and mice, in most cases premises were cleared fairly easily by poisoning, the work being done by the occupiers with materials sold to them or by our own operators (4 trained on staff) and the cost recovered.

Public Cleansing.

The collection of household refuse is efficiently carried out by four motor vehicles manned by a driver and 3, 4 or 5 men according to men available or season; there were also in use 3 horses and carts used chiefly on some 600 privies, each cart is manned by one man only.

One spare motor vehicle is maintained and is used to augment winter collections and in case of breakdown or maintenance work on other vehicles, great difficulty was experienced during the year to obtain spare parts and tyres to keep the vehicles on the road; the greatest difficulty was with the two old type Thornycroft vehicles which are deemed to be obsolete by the makers, these vehicles should be replaced as early as possible by modern vehicles and a steady policy of replacement (according to housing development) carried out until four or five 4/5 tons carrying capacity vehicles are obtained.

The remainder of the fleet of vehicles comprises the following:-

1 Thornycroft Handy - 9 years old.
1 Scammell Articulated - 4 years old.
1 Dennis - 4 years old, this vehicle is used for the cleaning of 152 pail closets remaining in the District.

At the end of the year the outdoor staff consisted of 2 foremen, four full-time motor drivers, 16 bin lifters (one used as a spare driver), 3 cartmen, 1 tipman and 1 salvage sorter - 27 total.

With the cessation of hostilities it is to be hoped that teams of men can be engaged who are of good height and physique, together with youth, as dust bins of some weight have to be lifted and emptied and this requires a man of a more robust nature than has been obtainable during the war years or was necessary in the earlier years when ash-pits only had to be cleaned by cart and horses; if this policy is followed I feel that the amount of time lost as shown by the following table will be greatly reduced.

Month	Working days	Total man working days	Days lost
January	22	616	82 $\frac{1}{2}$
February	22	594	34 $\frac{1}{2}$
March	22	594	51 $\frac{1}{2}$
April	27 $\frac{1}{2}$	770	60 $\frac{1}{2}$
May	22	594	47
June	22 $\frac{1}{2}$	607 $\frac{1}{2}$	35
July	24	784	28
August	21	588	58
C/Forward	183	5147 $\frac{1}{2}$	396 $\frac{1}{2}$

Month	Working days	Total man working days	Days lost
B/Forward	183	5147½	396½
September	22½	620	22
October	25	650	8½
November	24	672	33
December	21½	580½	22
Totals	276	7670	482

Refuse was removed bi-weekly to and deposited on controlled tips at East Cramlington, Seghill, Holywell and in Backworth Colliery Yard, also on to the Cramlington Village Recreation ground for levelling purposes. Tipping is also taking place at Hartford (site main road), adjoining the Avenue Colliery where colliery subsidence has given rise to flooding, this land will be restored above flood level and returned to cultivation when completed.

Tipping is also carried out on agricultural land as and when requested by farmers, this is usually done to regrade land following colliery subsidence.

The following figures show tonnage of refuse collected and the cost incurred and are for the financial year ending 31st March, 1946.

Month	Vehicles		Total Tonnage
	Motor	Horse Drawn	
April	1541½	342½	1884½
May	1132½	252½	1385
June	1447½	327½	1775½
July	1254	284½	1538½
August	1290½	305½	1596½
September	1180½	285½	1466½
October	1259½	277½	1537½
November	1233½	274½	1508
December	1365½	261½	1624½
January	1548½	268½	1817½
February	1483½	256½	1740½
March	1838½	223	2061½
Totals	16574	3361½	19935½

Amount of refuse removed on basis of premises and population:-

	Per Year		Per Week		Per Day	
	T.	C.	T.	C.	T.	C.
Per house or premises	2	15	1.05		.19	
Per 1,000 population	830	7	15 2		2	15

Detailed cost of Refuse Collection and Salvage Collection and Disposal for the year ended 31st March, 1946.

	1945 - 46			1944 - 45		
	£	s	d	£	s	d
Wages and insurance	5,113	3	7	4,665	12	5
Superannuation	255	10	7	200	0	0
Hired Haulage	39	9	0	22	2	6
Motor Account	2,684	17	10	2,429	14	4
Stable Account	312	7	11	345	2	10
New Vehicles	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disinfectants	3	15	0	0	0	0
Rates and Rents of Tips	62	6	4	68	4	8
Tools	7	17	4	17	1	9
Rat Disinfestation	19	6	0	15	15	0
Protective Clothing	9	0	0	7	0	0
Work on Tips	291	16	3	0	0	0
Sundries	8	3	7	42	6	10
Salvage	399	8	0	442	4	1
	9,207	1	5	28,255	4	5

Brought forward

9,207 1 5

8,255 4 5

Less Income

Scavenging £3 19 1

Salvage £1,033 7 10

1,037 6 11

1,076 7 10

£8,169 14 6£7,178 16 7

The cost per house or premises was 21/9.4d. as against 19/1.7d. for year ending 31st March, 1945.

Salvage is collected bi-weekly by means of trailers attached to the vehicles and is sorted, packed and paper and rags baled at our two depots, good markets are obtained for goods. The annual return for salvage could be greatly increased if only the residents or some of them could be encouraged to become salvage minded once more and show that very keen spirit displayed during the dark days of war, far too much paper, soap and powder packets and foodstuff packets, together with jam jars and bottles are finding their way into dust bins each week, all of which is affecting employment, paper mills are short of materials and beverages, vinegar, etc., cannot be bottled due to shortage of bottles. I must point out that under the Salvage of Waste Materials Orders it is still an offence to throw away paper, cardboard, etc.

For the year ending 31st March, 1946, the income from salvage sales was £1,033. 7. 10d.

With reference to tips for refuse, it is my opinion that in a mining district with land subject to subsidence tips should be obtained free from rent, I believe that the three colliery companies have realised that by controlled tipping derelict land can be usefully reclaimed and brought into use and I hope that in the future all tips will be free. The Agent to the Backworth Collieries had already informed me that any land belonging to his Company which is affected by subsidence can be used for refuse tipping free of charge.

There are many large areas of flooded land within the district which can eventually be used for tipping purposes by arrangement, some are about 25 acres in extent.

I wish to record here my sincere thanks to the Chairman and members of the Council for showing their confidence in me when promoting me to the position of Chief Sanitary Inspector in October and beg to thank them for their advice, help and support since that date.

To the Clerk of the Council, the Medical Officer of Health and my brother Officers I say thank you for their help and good advice and to Mr. Elliott for his loyal assistance and good work to the 31st December during which time I was without the services of a qualified assistant and for his help in the preparation of this report.

I beg to remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

JOHN W. BARKER.

Council Offices,
Seaton Delaval,
10th October, 1946.

